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Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

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02-08-2005, 08:25 PM #1

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Silver02ex
Member

Join Date: Jan 2004
Location: Portland, OR
Posts: 157
[Silver02ex's Photos](#)
1991 SL2

Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)
Time: aprox. 10-15 min
Tools you will need:

1. 3/8 inch drive ratchet
2. 5/8 inch spark plug socket
3. 6" extention
4. Spark plug gap guage
5. Anti-seize compound
6. New spark plugs (I use NGK V-power)

Removal and Installation

1. if the vehicle has been run recently, allow the engine to thoroughly cool
2. Carefully twist the spark plug wire boot to loosen it, then pull upward and remove the boot from the plug. Be sure to pull on the boot and not on the wire.
3. Using a spark plug socket that is equipped with a rubber insert to properly hold the plug, turn the spark plug counter-clockwise to loosen
4. Remove the spark plug by lifting it out of the bore.

...
2002 Honda Civic EX
1991 Saturn SL2

REWARD EXCELLENCE!
 Rate the quality of this post and help Silver02ex reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

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02-08-2005, 08:26 PM #2

Silver02ex
Member


Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

5. Compare the old spark plug to the new one to make sure it's the correct size
6. Measure the gap of the spark plug to make sure it's the correct gap. (Which is .040)

Join Date: Jan 2004
Location: Portland, OR
Posts: 157

[Silver02ex's Photos](#)

1991 SL2

7. Apply a coat of anti-size compound to the spark plug threads.
8. Insert the new spark plug into their hole, tighten the spark plug, be sure not to overtighten them. If resistance is felt before the plug is almost completely threaded, back the plug out and begin threading again. I did not have a torque wrench so I hand tight them. You may apply a small amount of silicone dielectric compound to the end of the spark plug lead or the inside of the spark plug boot to prevent sticking.
9. Attach the plug wires to the new spark plug

Here are my old AC Delco spark plugs.

...
2002 Honda Civic EX
1991 Saturn SL2

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

Rate the quality of this post and help *Silver02ex* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!



02-08-2005, 08:30 PM

#3

[Silver02ex](#)

Member



Join Date: Jan 2004
Location: Portland, OR
Posts: 157

[Silver02ex's Photos](#)

1991 SL2

Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

More write up to come in the future 😊 Next thing will be fuel filter and oil change.

...
2002 Honda Civic EX
1991 Saturn SL2

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

Rate the quality of this post and help *Silver02ex* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!



02-09-2005, 01:37 AM

#4

[Dubhlachan](#)

Member



Join Date: Aug 2004
Location: Cheboygan, MI
Posts: 127

1998 SW2

Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Dielectric grease on the boots?

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

Rate the quality of this post and help *Dubhlachan* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!



02-09-2005, 01:55 AM

#5

[madpogue](#)

Super Member



Join Date: Sep 2004
Location: Madison, WI USA
Posts: 25,715

[madpogue's Photos](#)

1996 SW2

Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Covered in step 8.

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

Rate the quality of this post and help *madpogue* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!



02-09-2005, 07:32 AM

#6

[Dubhlachan](#)

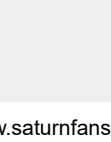
Member



Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Meh as usual I'm too captivated by the pictures to read much. What's the brown stuff on the insulators of the old plugs?

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

 Join Date: Aug 2004 Location: Cheboygan, MI Posts: 127 1998 SW2 	 Rate the quality of this post and help <i>Dubhlachan</i> reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!
02-09-2005, 08:46 AM #2	
Razorbak Master Member  Join Date: Aug 2004 Location: Chicagoland Posts: 2,860 Razorbak's Photos  1996 SL2 	 Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures) Quote: Originally Posted by Dubhlachan <i>What's the brown stuff on the insulators of the old plugs?</i> Looks like oil. 😊 Silver02ex, was the cam cover gasket leaking oil down into the spark plug wells? 🤔 REWARD EXCELLENCE!  Rate the quality of this post and help <i>Razorbak</i> reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!
02-09-2005, 09:39 AM #8	
Luke Master Member  Join Date: May 2002 Location: Laguna Bch, CA Posts: 4,159 1995 SL2 	 Plug Wells leaking oil Quote: Fm >> Dubhlachan << > What's the brown stuff on the insulators of the old plugs?< Classic evidence that the respective spark plug wells are leaking oil--from the o-ring gaskets near the top of the well. BTW, exceptional pictures 😊 ...Keep them coming 😊 ... > 95 SL 2 = 653,369 Miles 40.4 MPG, as of 5/20/11. My manual Radiator Fan Switch, courtesy of Wolfman's patient installation guidance, continues to be.....invaluable < The car was retired REWARD EXCELLENCE!  Rate the quality of this post and help <i>Luke</i> reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!
02-09-2005, 10:01 AM #9	
Dubhlachan Member  Join Date: Aug 2004 Location: Cheboygan, MI Posts: 127 1998 SW2 	 Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures) Aye that's what I thought. Didn't look too severe though. Mine were swimming in it before I changed my gasket. REWARD EXCELLENCE!  Rate the quality of this post and help <i>Dubhlachan</i> reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!
02-09-2005, 10:23 AM #10	
kmix99 Member  Join Date: Aug 2004 Location: Cheboygan, MI Posts: 127 1998 SW2 	 Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures) The Advance Auto in my town doesn't stock the NGK V-Powers anymore , just the regular, plain \$1.99 NGK's. Anyone know if there a big difference in performance/ longevity? REWARD EXCELLENCE!



Join Date: Jan 2005
Location: Central PA
Posts: 109

1996 SL2
1999 SC2



Rate the quality of this post and help *kmix99* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

02-09-2005, 01:10 PM

#11

Silver02ex

Member



Join Date: Jan 2004
Location: Portland, OR
Posts: 157

[Silver02ex's Photos](#)

1991 SL2



Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Razorbak**
Looks like oil.

Silver02ex, was the cam cover gasket leaking oil down into the spark plug wells?

I did not see any leaks down there. My cam cover was replaced about 5 months ago. The last time I had a leak, when I pulled the wires off, oil was dripping onto the cam over and the spark plugs was covered almost to the top with oil.

...
2002 Honda Civic EX
1991 Saturn SL2

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

Rate the quality of this post and help *Silver02ex* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

02-09-2005, 01:12 PM

#12

Silver02ex

Member



Join Date: Jan 2004
Location: Portland, OR
Posts: 157

[Silver02ex's Photos](#)

1991 SL2



Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **kmix99**
The Advance Auto in my town doesn't stock the NGK V-Powers anymore , just the regular, plain \$1.99 NGK's.

Anyone know if there a big difference in performance/ longevity?

Isn't that expensive for regular NGK? I was able to pick up the V-power for \$1.40 each at GI Joes.

...
2002 Honda Civic EX
1991 Saturn SL2

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

Rate the quality of this post and help *Silver02ex* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

02-09-2005, 01:22 PM

#13

Razorbak

Master Member



Join Date: Aug 2004
Location: Chicagoland
Posts: 2,860

[Razorbak's Photos](#)

1996 SL2



Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Silver02ex**
I did not see any leaks down there. My cam cover was replaced about 5 months ago. The last time I had a leak, when I pulled the wires off, oil was dripping onto the cam over and the spark plugs was covered almost to the top with oil.

Hmm, well it sure looks like oil. Did you replace the plugs when you installed the cam cover (gasket) 5 months ago?

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

Rate the quality of this post and help *Razorbak* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

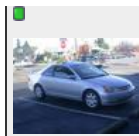
02-09-2005, 01:30 PM

#14

Silver02ex

Member

Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)



Join Date: Jan 2004
Location: Portland, OR
Posts: 157

[Silver02ex's Photos](#)

1991 SL2



I had the cam cover replaced 5 months ago, right after that I put those AC Delco plugs in along with new wires. Now that I was able to find the V-power I thought I would put those in. I was also surprise when I saw just a little bit of oil on the AC Delco plugs.

...
2002 Honda Civic EX
1991 Saturn SL2

REWARD EXCELLENCE!



Rate the quality of this post and help *Silver02ex* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

02-09-2005, 02:19 PM

#15

[sc2095](#)

Member



Join Date: Oct 2003
Location: Honeoye, NY
Posts: 202

[sc2095's Photos](#)

1995 SC2



Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

I'm pretty sure that's oil, because mine looked like that, but I couldn't see oil getting down into the plug wells. However, when I would take the plugs out, there would be some oil on the threads of the plug, which is from the gasket. I just redid the gasket, and so far, there isn't any brown on the insulators. It's probably a slower leak.

REWARD EXCELLENCE!



Rate the quality of this post and help *sc2095* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

02-09-2005, 06:43 PM

#16

[sc2dave](#)

Senior Member



Join Date: Oct 2002
Location: L.A., CAL
Posts: 1,408



Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

hey, i bite my nails too! lol

REWARD EXCELLENCE!



Rate the quality of this post and help *sc2dave* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

02-11-2005, 12:47 AM

#17

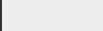
[sierrap615](#)

Master Member



Join Date: Aug 2003
Location: Downers Grove, Illinois
Posts: 2,538

[sierrap615's Photos](#)



Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **sc2095**

I'm pretty sure that's oil, because mine looked like that, but I couldn't see oil getting down into the plug wells. However, when I would take the plugs out, there would be some oil on the threads of the plug, which is from the gasket. I just redid the gasket, and so far, there isn't any brown on the insulators. It's probably a slower leak.

i've seen it also, but no oil leak. the oil on the threads may be from the install(some people i beleave use oil instead of antiseize). and when a spark plug is torqued down, oil can not seep down, trust me, i know for a fact, my car has been parked for 5 months, and oil is still in the holes. I'm thinking it is more a sign of heat.

REWARD EXCELLENCE!



Rate the quality of this post and help *sierrap615* reputation points. Click the reputation button near the bottom left corner of this message box. Thank you!

02-11-2005, 09:33 AM

#18

[sc2095](#)

Member



Join Date: Oct 2003
Location: Honeoye, NY
Posts: 202

[sc2095's Photos](#)

1995 SC2

Re: Spark Plugs replacement (with pictures)

Quote:

Originally Posted by **sierrap615**

i've seen it also, but no oil leak. the oil on the threads may be from the install(some people i beleave use oil instead of antiseize). and when a spark plug is torqued down, oil can not seep down, trust me, i know for a fact, my car has been parked for 5 months, and oil is still in the holes. I'm thinking it is more a sign of heat.

I say it could be oil because Wolfman made a good point in a different thread, saying that even if the oil in only on the threads of the plugs, it's still comin from the valve cover gasket, because if there was that much oil in the cylinder while the car was running and while it wasn't running, it wouldn't fire on that cylinder. It may also be because of heat, but the brown on the metal below the insulator looks like oil to me.

REWARD EXCELLENCE!

